

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERN 01142 130801Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03  
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15  
STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01  
DOE-11 /104 W

-----087238 130821Z /17

R 130700Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BERN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5912

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERN 1142

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR DOUGLAS/FAS

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: EAGR  
SUBJ: PARLIAMENTARY CRITICISM OF US SPRING WHEAT IMPORTED  
INTO SWITZERLAND

1. AT HIS INFORMAL REQUEST, AGATT MET MAR 6 WITH ALFRED  
BRUGGER, DIR, SWISS FEDERAL CEREALS COMMISSION TO DISCUSS  
RESPONSE TO FEDERAL REP BAUMANN'S QUESTIONS RAISED FEB 27 ON THE  
FLOOR OF PARLIAMENT CONCERNING THE QUALITY OF US SPRING  
WHEAT IMPORT FOR MILLING INTO FLOUR SUITABLE FOR BAKING.

2. BAUMANN'S QUESTIONS, REPORTEDLY INSTIGATED BY RECIPIENTS  
OF US SPROUT-DAMAGED SPRING WHEAT ARE:

A. WHAT MEASURES DOES THE GOS INTEND TO TAKE IN ORDER TO PREVENT  
IMPORTS OF US WHEAT CONTAINING EXCESSIVE AMOUNTS OF SPROUT  
DAMAGE (UNACCEPTABLY LOW FALLING NUMBERS) WITH DUTIES AND  
LEVIES PAID AS BREAD GRAIN, FROM BEING USED FOR THE  
PRODUCTION OF BAKING FLOUR AS WELL AS BEING CARRIED  
IN DEFENSE STOCKS?

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B. WHAT MEASURES DOES THE GOS INTEND TO TAKE TO PREVENT INFERIOR  
WHEAT QUALITIES IMPORTED AS BREAD GRAINS FROM BEING DELIVERED  
TO COMMERCIAL MILLS?

3. BRUGGER IS FULLY PREPARED TO RESIST ANY GOS ASSUMPTION  
OF END-USER TRADING RISKS. HE WILL, HOWEVER, PROPOSE A REFUND

OF THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE HIGHER BREAD GRAIN AND LOWER  
FEEDGRAIN LEVIES UPON ASSURANCE THAT THE NEWLY LABELED FEED  
WHEAT BECOMES PART OF THE GLOBAL FEEDSTUFF QUOTA AND IS USED  
ACCORDINGLY.

4. AGATT AGREED TO PROVIDE BEST AVAILABLE DATA THAT (1)  
PLACES THE EXTENT OF US SPROUT DAMAGE IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE;  
(2) DESCRIBES THE LIMITATION OF THE FALLING NUMBERS TEST AS A  
SINGLE OR IDEAL MEASURE OF BAKING QUALITY; (3) OUTLINES THE  
PRACTICAL LIMITATIONS AND VARIABILITY OF THE FALLING NUMBERS  
TEST BETWEEN POINTS OF LOADING, TRANSSHIPMENT AND FINAL  
DESTINATION, AND (4) SEVERELY LIMITS FALLING NUMBER GUARANTEES  
IN INTERNATIONAL WHEAT TRADING.

5. WE HAVE ASKED GPW ROTTERDAM FOR AVAILABLE DATA BASED ON  
CARGO SAMPLING AND THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THE EXTENT OF SPROUT  
DAMAGED SPRING WHEAT, US OR OTHER ORIGIN, POSSIBLY CIRCULATING  
IN THE EUROPEAN AND SWISS TRADE.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: DATA AND ARGUMENTS TO BOLSTER BRUGGER'S  
RESPONSE AND REBUT GENERALIZED CRITICISM OF US SPRING WHEAT  
QUALITY BASED ON FALLING NUMBERS TEST.  
WARNER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WHEAT, IMPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BERN01142  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780111-0268  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BERN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 85  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 735a74c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3357011  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PARLIAMENTARY CRITICISM OF US SPRING WHEAT IMPORTED INTO SWITZERLAND  
**TAGS:** EAGR, SW  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/735a74c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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20 Mar 2014  
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